

Claims

What is claimed is:

- 5 ^{sub} 1. For an electronic system for creating and editing an electronic document, a method for semantically labeling a string of text in the electronic document created in an application program module, the method comprising the steps of:
- 10 receiving the string of text in a recognizer dynamic-link library;
- transmitting the string of text to a plurality of recognizer plug-ins;
- in each of the plurality of recognizer plug-ins, annotating the string of text to determine a plurality of labels;
- 15 transmitting the plurality of labels from the recognizer plug-ins to the recognizer dynamic-link library; and
- transmitting the plurality of labels to the application program module.
- 20 2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of synchronizing the plurality of labels received from the recognizer plug-ins before transmitting the plurality of labels to the application program module.
- 25 3. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
- receiving the plurality of labels in an action dynamic link library;
- transmitting the plurality of labels to a plurality of
- 30 action plug-ins; and
- determining, in the action plug-ins, a plurality of actions based on the labels and displaying a plurality of actions received from the plurality of action plug-ins.

4. The method of Claim 1 wherein the step of annotating the string of text to determine a plurality of labels comprises the steps of:

- 5 comparing the string of text with a plurality of stored strings with an associated stored label to determine a match; and
if so, then labeling the string of text with the associated stored label of the matched stored string.

16. 10 5. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the steps recited in Claim 1.

15 6. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the step of modifying the content of the electronic document to reflect the plurality of labels.

20 7. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
causing the application program module to fire an event within an object model of the application program module;
causing a piece of code associated with the event to be executed when at least one of the plurality of labels is determined.

25 8. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
before the step of receiving the string of text in a recognizer dynamic-link library, determining a language of the string of text and if the language is not recognized by the recognizer dynamic-link library, then ending the method.

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9. The method of Claim 1 further comprising the steps of examining the content of the electronic document surrounding the string of text to aid in the step of annotating the string of text to determine a plurality of labels.
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10. A method for labeling a string of text in an electronic document as the electronic document is created in an application program module, the method comprising the steps of:
5 as the string of text is entered into the electronic document, determining whether the string of text matches one of a plurality of stored strings; and
if so, then determining a label associated with the matched stored string.
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11. The method recited in Claim 10 further comprising the step of determining a set of actions associated with the label.
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12. The method recited in Claim 11 further comprising displaying an indication indicating that the label has been found for the string of text.

13. The method recited in Claim 12 further comprising the steps of:
20 determining that a user has selected the string of text;
and
in response, displaying the plurality of actions to the user.
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14. The method recited in Claim 13 further comprising the steps of:
receiving an indication that one of the plurality of actions has been selected; and
30 in response to receiving an indication that one of the plurality of actions has been selected, then causing the application program module to execute the selected action.

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16. The method recited in Claim 14 wherein the application program module executes the selected action by determining whether an action plug-in dynamic link library assigned to the action is available; and

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17. The method recited in Claim 16 further comprising the steps of:

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19. A system for labeling a string in an electronic document as the string is entered into the electronic document, the system comprising:

5 an application program module for creating the electronic document;

a recognizer dynamic link library connected to the application program module; and

10 an action dynamic link library connected to the application program module.

20. The system of Claim 19 further comprising at least one recognizer plug-in connected to the recognizer dynamic link library

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21. The system of Claim 20 further comprising at least one action plug-in connected to the action dynamic link library.

20 22. The system of Claim 21 wherein the at least one recognizer plug-in receives the string and compares the string to a plurality of stored strings to determine whether the string matches any of the stored string and, if so, then labeling the string with a label associated with the matched stored string.

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